

REMARKS

Claims 15 and 21-28 are pending in the present application. Claim 15 has been amended. Claims 11, 13, 14 and 16-20 have been canceled.

Specification

The disclosure has been objected to for the reasons stated on page 2 of the Office Action dated February 25, 2009. The specification has been corrected accordingly. The Examiner is therefore respectfully requested to withdraw this corresponding objection.

Claim Rejections-35 U.S.C. 102

Claims 11, 16 and 17 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being unpatentable over the Kasdan et al. reference (U.S. Patent No. 4,093,866).

Claim Rejections-35 U.S.C. 103

Claims 11, 16 and 17 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Kasdan et al. reference in view of the Flockencier et al. reference (U.S. Patent No. 5,357,331).

Claims 13 and 14 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Kasdan et al. reference in view of the Koch et al. reference (U.S. Patent No. 4,817,208) and the Bee et al. reference (U.S. Patent No. 5,528,303).

Claim 18 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Kasdan et al. reference in view of the Iinuma reference (U.S. Patent No. 4,879,464).

Claim 19 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Kasdan et al. reference in view of the Miers reference (U.S. Patent No. 5,719,667).

Claim 20 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Kasdan et al. reference in view of the Turner et al. reference (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0105397).

Claims 13 and 14 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Kasdan et al. reference in view of the Flockencier et al. reference, in further view of the Koch et al. and Bee et al. references.

Claim 18 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Kasdan et al. reference in view of the Flockencier et al. reference, in further view of the Iinuma reference.

Claim 19 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Kasdan et al. reference in view of the Flockencier et al. reference, in further view of the Miers reference.

Claim 20 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Kasdan et al. reference in view of the Flockencier et al. reference, in further view of the Turner et al. reference. .

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants note the Examiner's acknowledgement that claims 15 and 21-28 are allowed.

Although Applicants do not necessarily agree with the above noted rejections, claims 11, 13, 14 and 16-20 have been canceled, to advance prosecution of this application.

Conclusion

Claims 11, 13, 14 and 16-20 have been canceled by way of this amendment. Claim 15 has been amended merely to correct a minor typographical error. The amendment to claim 15 does not change claim scope. Entry of this Amendment would not raise any new issues, and would not require any further consideration and/or search. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to grant entry of this amendment as placing the application in condition for allowance in view of the acknowledgement of allowable subject matter.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the corresponding rejections, and to pass the claims of the present application to issue, for at least the above reasons.

In the event that there are any outstanding matters remaining in the present application, please contact Andrew J. Telesz, Jr. (Reg. No. 33,581) at (571) 283-0720 in the Washington, D.C. area, to discuss these matters.

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.17 and 1.136(a), the Applicants hereby petition for an extension of three (3) months to August 25, 2009, for the period in which to file a response to the outstanding Office Action. The required fee of \$1110.00 should be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0238.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment for any additional fees that may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-0238.

Respectfully submitted,

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